

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LAGOS 04644 261428Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----261432Z 124888 /53

O 261327Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 707
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
TE 7081
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LAGOS 4644

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO
SUBJECT: ANGOLA/ZAIRE: GARBA TO LUBUMBASHI

REF: STATE 093307, STATE 093336

1. AS AUTHORIZED BY REFTELS, I BRIEFED GARBA THIS MORNING IN SOME DETAIL CONCERNING CURRZFT ANGOPA/ZAIRE SITUATION. GARBA WAS WARMLY APPRECIATIVE AND ASKED THAT I RELAY HIS PERSONAL THANKS TO WASHINGTON. HE SAID THE FMG WAS GRATIFIED BY SUCH EVIDENCES OF TRUST AND CANDOR DEVELOPING BETWEEN LAGOS AND WASHINGTON. CHANCES OF SUCCESS FOR NIGERIA'S INITIATIVE ON SHABA PROBLEM WERE SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED BY THIS COLLABORATION.

2. GARBA SAID MOBUTU HAD AGREED TO RECEIVE HIM IN LUBUMBASHI LATER TODAY, APRIL 25, OR TOMORROW MORNING APRIL 27. GARBA WILL
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DEPART LAGOS BY SPECIAL PLANE MIDDAY TODAY, RETURNING DIRECTLY TO LAGOS TOMORROW AFTERNOON. HE IS STILL AWAITING WORD FROM LUANDA CONCERNING NETO'S EXPECTED RETURN FROM EASTERN EUROPE AND A CONFIRMED DATE FOR THEM TO GET TOGETHER. AS INDICATED I FLAG
L 4559, HE EXPECTS THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN UNTIL THIS WEEKEND AT THE EARLIEST.

3. GARBA TOOK SPECIAL NOTE OF US CONTINUED READINESS TO OPEN TALKS WIZY ANGOLA WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS PROVIDED THERE IS PROGRESS WITH RESPECT TO ZAIRE PROBLEM. HE FOUND OUR DEFINITION OF "PROGRESS" AS SPECIFIED TO FIGUEREDO ARPIL 25 MORE SUBSTANTIAL THAN WHAT HE THOUGH THE NIGERIAN INITIATIVE MIGHT SOON BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE, BUT HE DID NOT BELIVE IT WAS AN UNREASONABLE BARGAINING STANCE.

4. WE SPECULATED CONCERNING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN VARIOUS DISSIDENT FACTIONS IN ZAIRE, THEIR LEADERSHIP AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH NETO AND THE SOVIETS. GARBA'S INFORMATION ON SUCH QUESTIONS APPEARS TO BE THIN, NOR HAD I BEEN AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS WITH HIM ANY OF THE REPORTS WE HAVE RECEIVED ON THESE MATTERS. IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO BRIEF HIM ON THESE QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HIS SFY CONVERSATION WITH NETO. I SHOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING THE DEPARTMENT CAN SEND ME FOR SUCH PURPOSES.
EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION CONTROL, POLITICAL SITUATION, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS04644
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770145-0286
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770419/aaaaaqdx.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6b931c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 93307, 77 STATE 93336
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2693642
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLA/ZAIRE: GARBA TO LUBUMBASHI
TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO, (GARBA, JOSEPH N)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6b931c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009